

BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal )  
Service Administrative Company Board of ) CC Docket Nos. 97-21  
and 96-45  
Directors )

NOMINATION OF MATTHEW T. BELL TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION COMPANY AS  
REPRESENTATIVE FOR COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS

Norlight Telecommunications, Inc. ("Norlight"), a competitive local exchange carrier that provides services under both the Schools and Libraries and Rural Health Care Universal Service Administrative Company programs, nominates Matthew T. Bell for the follow Board member position on the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"): representative for competitive local exchange carriers.

Mr. Bell currently serves as corporate counsel for Norlight and oversees many of the legal and business aspects of our Schools and Libraries and Rural Health Care programs. Norlight currently has contracts with over sixty-five school districts and more than twenty-five health care facilities. Last year Mr. Bell reviewed and assisted in responding to over one hundred requests for proposal for the 2008 Funding Year. In addition, last year Mr. Bell also participated in the USAC sponsored Schools and Libraries conference in New Orleans, Louisiana which helped to solidify not only his understanding of that program but also USAC's governance structure. Mr. Bell has a great appreciation for the programs offered through USAC and the communities it benefits as he grew up in a rural community of only 2,000 people. While the town was very small, the schools and the hospital attempted to utilize current technology when possible but both faced the challenges often met by rural institutions. Mr. Bell understands what a difference not only the Schools and Libraries and Rural Health Care programs but also the High Cost and Low Income programs can make for communities as a whole and hopes that if he is appointed to the Board he can use the opportunity to continue helping all of USAC's programs develop and assist those who most greatly need it.

Mr. Bell's prior telecommunications experience includes acting as outside counsel for Verizon Wireless as an attorney with Stinson Morrison Hecker, LLP, and negotiating contracts and managing regional and national build

plans as an employee of Sprint Corporation. Mr. Bell's broad experience in the telecommunications field coupled with his knowledge of USAC and its programs make him an excellent candidate for the Board member position which represents competitive local exchange carriers and therefore, Norlight strongly recommends his appointment to this position.